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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The Elektro-Praga, National Enterprise, Plant at Hlinsko (050/M86), East Bohemia, produces various electric appliances, such as electric motors, refrigerators, heaters, etc. On 10 November 1952, a large new automatic sheet iron cutter was delivered to the plant by an East German firm. Since then, however, the machine has not even been unpacked and is still in a wooden crate outside, in the yard. Elektro-Praga continues to send all its sheet iron to the Kovo factory at Chotebor<sup>1</sup> to have it cut to the required pattern.
  2. Another example of gross negligence concerns the storage of pre-fabricated wooden packing cases. A large consignment worth over one and a quarter million Kcs. arrived at the plant about the end of 1952 from the mill at Steti (051/F72)<sup>2</sup>. Much of this has been scattered in different places in the factory yard and much has been left in the open where it is slowly rotting away. Workshops are never repaired, rain penetrates through the roofs into various workshops and not only inconveniences workers but also interferes with production, ruining machines and unfinished products. When workers complain to the central administrative office they are advised to place a bucket under the leaks.
  3. The manager of the factory is Kukela (fmu); the production department is managed by Chief Engineer Laskov (fmu); the deputy manager, Polak (fmu), is also in charge of the administrative department. The head of the accounting department is Hasler (fmu); development of production methods is under the chief official of the technological department, Kratochvil (fmu). Technical equipment is supervised by the chief mechanic, Kroutil (fmu).
  4. Only a few workers in the Elektro-Praga factory are enthusiastic Party members. The top officials owe their high positions to Party allegiance and there are few genuine followers of the Party line among the workers.
- Attendance at Party meetings is always negligible. On one occasion, when the secretary general of the district executive of the Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship League, Jaroslav Tousovsky, visited the factory, only about 25 people turned up for his lecture, although compulsory attendance had been ordered by the Party.

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